

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Richard Leslie Bates)
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Serial No. 10/673,601) Examiner: (Unassigned)
Filed: September 29, 2003) Group Art Unit 3671
Confirmation No. 2396) Attorney Docket 1-24775
For: Excavating And Loading Machine)

Commissioner For Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Missing Parts and Priority Document Transmittal, and Information Disclosure Statement

Honorable Sir:

For the convenience of the United States Patent and Trademark Office and pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, record is hereby made of information which the Patent Office may wish to consider in connection with its examination of the above-identified patent application. Enclosed is a list of all patents, publications and other information submitted for consideration along with a legible copy of each document. This Information Disclosure Statement should not be considered as a representation that a search has been made, as a representation that no other potentially material references may exist, or as an admission that the information cited in this statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing of a first office action on the merits. Therefore, no fee should be required. In the event that any fee is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge MacMillan, Sobanski & Todd, LLC, Deposit Account 13-0005.

Also enclosed are 1) a signed Declaration, 2) a copy of the Notice To File Missing Parts, 3) a fee transmittal form, and 4) a certified copy of the priority application

It is respectfully submitted that applicant's claimed invention is patentable over the enclosed art. Early and favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO. 1-24775

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT
Richard Leslie Bates

FILING DATE September 29, 2003 GROUP 3671

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS DOCUMENT **EXAMINER** DATE NAME CLASS SUBCLASS FILING DATE INITIAL NUMBER IF APPROPRIATE 10/12/1999 5964567 Bamford 414 685 6071066 6/6/2000 Braud 414 686 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS **EXAMINER** DOCUMENT DATE COUNTRY CLASS SUBCLASS TRANSLATION INITIAL NUMBER YES NO 10/5/1988 **European Patent Office** 0285281 A1 0577388 A2 1/5/1994 **European Patent Office** 0976878 2/2/2000 **European Patent Office** OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) **EXAMINER** DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.